

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please replace the original claim set with the following replacement claim set.

1. (currently amended) A battery pack for powering a hand-held portable electronic device, comprising:

a ~~generally rectangular battery cell~~, the battery cell having an upper surface and, a lower surface, and an outer perimeter between the upper surface and the lower surface, the battery cell having a length, a width, and a thickness suitable for insertion into ~~the~~ a hand-held portable device;

a battery cell casing ~~enclosing an~~ integrally connected to and surrounding the outer perimeter of the battery cell, whereby the casing has a ~~width~~ thickness equal to the thickness of the battery cell; and

a pair of locking latches for latching the battery pack to ~~the~~ a hand-held portable electronic device, whereby a first locking latch of the pair of locking latches is defined along a first side of the ~~battery cell~~ outer perimeter, and a second locking latch of said pair of locking latches is defined along a second side of the ~~battery cell~~ outer perimeter opposite the first locking latch.

2. (currently amended) The battery pack of Claim 1, further comprising a locking latch catch defined along an outer edge of each of the first and second locking latches ~~for engaging first and second latching detents defined within the interior casing of the hand held electronic device for securing the battery pack within the electronic device~~ and extending away from the battery cell.

3. (currently amended) The ~~method~~ battery pack of Claim 1, whereby the locking latches are attached to and integrated with the battery cell casing.

4. (currently amended) The ~~method~~ battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the first and second locking latches comprise an elongate member having a first end and a second end whereby the first end is attached to a portion of the battery cell casing and whereby the second end is attached to the battery cell casing in spaced-apart relation from the first end such that a clearance is formed between an inner surface of the locking latch member and an outer surface of the battery cell casing between a first connection point of the first end to the battery cell casing and a second connection point of the second end to the battery cell casing.

5. (currently amended) The battery pack of Claim 4, whereby the locking latches are deformable such that the locking latches may be ~~formed~~ forced inward toward the outer surface of the casing between the connection point of the first end to the battery cell casing and the connection point of the second end so that the outer surface of the locking latches and the locking latch catches may pass by an inner surface of the detents.

6. (currently amended) The battery pack of Claim 1, further comprising an electrical battery contact disposed along ~~the~~ an outer perimeter surface of the battery cell for electrical contact with a mating contact ~~defined within the interior of the~~ a portable electronic device.

7. (original) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the battery pack has a length of about 90 millimeters.

8. (original) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the battery pack has a width of about 40 millimeters.

9. (original) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein a thickness of about 4.5 millimeters.

10. (currently amended) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the battery cell casing ~~preferably~~ is constructed from a polycarbonate material.

11. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A wireless telephone comprising the battery pack of Claim 1, ~~whereby the portable electronic device is a wireless telephone.~~

12. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A hand-held computer comprising the battery pack of Claim 1, ~~whereby the portable electronic device is a hand-held computer.~~

13. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A personal digital assistant comprising the battery pack of Claim 1, ~~whereby the portable electronic device is a personal digital assistant.~~

14. (original) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the battery cell includes a lithium ion battery cell.

15. (original) The battery pack of Claim 1, wherein the battery cell includes a lithium polymer battery cell.

16. (currently amended) A portable electronic device ~~and battery pack combination,~~ comprising:

~~the portable electronic device including;~~

a ~~generally rectangular~~ battery compartment for receiving a battery pack for powering the electronic device, the battery compartment including a battery support structure for supporting a battery pack after the battery pack is inserted into the electronic device, wherein the battery support structure includes ~~a pair of~~ spaced-apart first and second latching detents for securing the battery pack to the electronic device; and

~~the~~ a battery pack including;

a ~~generally rectangular~~ battery cell, the battery cell having an upper surface ~~and~~ a lower surface, and an outer perimeter between the upper surface and the lower surface, the battery cell having a length, a width, and a thickness suitable for insertion into the portable electronic device;

a battery cell casing ~~closing an~~ integrally connected to and surrounding the outer perimeter of the battery cell, whereby the casing has a ~~width~~ thickness equal to the thickness of the battery cell; and

a pair of locking latches for engaging the latching detents for attaching the battery pack to the electronic device, whereby a first locking latch of the pair of locking latches is defined along a first side of the ~~battery cell casing~~ outer perimeter, and a second locking latch of said pair of locking latches is defined along a second side of the ~~battery cell casing~~ outer perimeter opposite the first locking latch.

17. (currently amended) The ~~battery pack~~ portable electronic device of Claim 16, further comprising a locking latch catch defined along an outer edge of each of the first and second locking latches for engaging first and second latching detents of the ~~pair of spaced apart latching detents defined within the interior casing~~ battery support structure of the ~~hand-held~~ electronic device for securing the battery pack within the electronic device.

18. (currently amended) The ~~battery pack~~ portable electronic device of Claim 17, whereby the locking latches are deformable such that the locking latches may be ~~formed~~ forced inward toward the an outer surface of the casing ~~between the connection point of the first end to the battery cell casing and the connection point of the second end so that the outer surface of the locking latches and the locking latch catches may pass by an inner surface of the detents.~~

19. (currently amended) The ~~battery pack~~ portable electronic device of Claim 16, wherein the battery cell includes a lithium ion battery cell.

20. (currently amended) The ~~battery pack~~ portable electronic device of Claim 16, wherein the battery cell includes a lithium polymer battery cell.

21. (new) A battery pack for powering a hand-held portable electronic device, comprising:

a battery cell having an upper surface, a lower surface and an outer perimeter between the upper surface and the lower surface, the battery cell having a length, a width, and a thickness suitable for insertion into a hand-held portable device;

a battery cell casing integrally connected to and surrounding the outer perimeter of the battery cell, whereby the casing has a thickness equal to the thickness of the battery cell; and

a pair of locking latches for latching the battery pack to a hand-held portable electronic device, whereby a first locking latch of the pair of locking latches is defined along a first side of the outer perimeter, and a second locking latch of said pair of locking latches is defined along a second side of the outer perimeter opposite the first locking latch, and wherein the first and second locking latches comprise an elongate member having a first end and a second end whereby the first end is attached to a portion of the battery cell casing and whereby the second end is attached to the battery cell casing in spaced-apart relation from the first end such that a clearance is formed between an inner surface of the locking latch member and an outer surface of the battery cell casing between a first connection point of the first end to the battery cell casing and a second connection point of the second end to the battery cell casing.

22. (new) The battery pack of Claim 16, whereby the locking latches are attached to and integrated with the battery cell casing.

23. (new) The battery pack of Claim 16, wherein the first and second locking latches comprise an elongate member having a first end and a second end whereby the first end is attached to a portion of the battery cell casing and whereby the second end is attached to the battery cell casing in spaced-apart relation from the first end such that a clearance is formed between an inner surface of the locking latch member and an outer surface of the battery cell casing between a first connection point of the first end to the battery cell casing and a second connection point of the second end to the battery cell casing.

24. (new) The portable electronic device of Claim 16 further comprising a battery cover that covers the battery pack and battery support structure.